Researchers identify genetic mutation for deafness

The following is an excerpt.

Australian researchers have uncovered the mechanism by which a rare genetic mutation causes premature deafness in people in their early twenties, paving the way for early detection for this type of hearing loss.

Around one in six Australians has some form of hearing loss, with prevalence rates much higher among the elderly. However, it is unclear how many people have this particular genetic mutation.

Researchers first identified the genetic mutation – known as SERPINB6 – in 2010 but until now, it was unclear what caused the hearing loss.

Read the full story here: Genetic mutation causes deafness – now researchers know how